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ACCOUNT
OF THE
REVOLT AND MASSACRE

WHICH TOOK PLACE IN

_K P A R I S, [Appx. - Hist]

ON THE 10th OF AUGUST, 1792.

WITH

A Variety of Facts relating to Transactions previous to that
Date, which throw Light on the

REAL INSTIGATORS

OF

THOSE HORRID AND PREMEDITATED CRIMES.

BY A PERSON PRESENT AT THE TIME.

THE SECOND EDITION.

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REVOLT AND MASSACRE

AT

P A R I S.

IT is of the utmost importance that all Europe should know, not only the horrid crimes which have lately been perpetrated in Paris, but also the crooked and infamous labyrinth by which the principal movers of those crimes have arrived at their ends.

As these audacious rebels, who have de-throned their King and murdered in cold blood a foreign regiment, have remained masters of the field ;—as all power is in their hands ;—as they have put a stop to all communications that are unfavourable to their

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cause;—and as they suspended the departure of all foreign couriers until they should have time to give, in their own way, an account of the transactions;—the truth has not yet been able to find its way to other nations.

Time alone, it is true, will in this, as in other cases, throw light upon facts, and explain the real connexion between causes and effects.—Nevertheless, without waiting for that accuracy which time alone can procure, it is necessary to contradict falsehood, and shew these important and disastrous transactions, as nearly as possible, in their true point of view.

The ruling party in France, which is that of the Jacobins, wishes to have the French nation and the whole world believe, that the treachery of the King had worn out the patience of the people, and thereby occasioned an insurrection. This, however, is false.

The same party wishes also to have it believed, that the Swiss Guards attacked the people, who were, as they express it, *in the calm pride of Sovereign Majesty*, only demanding what was just; and that such a traitorous
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and premeditated attack authorized those inhuman and abominable massacres which so soon after took place. This also is false.

That same party wishes likewise to appear as submissive agents of the sovereign will of the people. They know the horror of the deed, and dare not take upon themselves the infamy and everlasting shame, which will infallibly be the portion of all those who have aided or abetted one of the most cruel scenes that ever yet disgraced the human race. But they must participate in that infamy and shame, and they must learn to know, that there are other countries where men dare speak the truth, and that their shallow artifices and audacious threats can produce only a temporary effect.

The National Assembly itself is the principal cause of all that has happened; and this is easily to be proved by a short and simple examination of facts.

It is well known that the same Constitution which placed the members of the Assembly upon their seats, had given to the King of France a right of sanctioning or of suspending
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their Decrees; and had also given to him a guard of 1800 men attached to his person, unconnected with every other military body, and having no orders to receive but those which came immediately from his Majesty.

In the month of May last, when those guards had not been above three months on duty, the Assembly, in consequence of vague and hearsay denunciations, contrived by a sudden manœuvre to have them broken and dismissed. The manœuvre consisted in pretending a panic fear, and declaring the Assembly permanent and in a state of deliberation night and day, until the danger, which, as they pretended, menaced the nation, should be over. As soon as with the assistance of the mob, these guards were dismissed, the Assembly, without explaining what the danger had been, returned to its usual state, and even at the time the Parisians were a little surprised at such a bustle for nothing. What proves beyond dispute the perfidy of this transaction is, that among the whole 1800 men thus broke for treason against the nation, the Assembly did not dare to accuse a single individual.

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The next step was a decree to have a camp of twenty thousand volunteers in the environs of Paris. The King, who perceived the intention, and foresaw the danger of such a measure, refused the sanction, and thereby frustrated that measure. It was this refusal of the sanction that gave occasion to the famous, or, rather infamous, affair of the 20th of June; when an armed mob, received with applause by the Assembly, insulted their Monarch and his unfortunate family in the grossest and most unconstitutional manner, with the avowed intention of obliging him to grant his sanction. The fortitude of the King having rendered ineffectual this strange attempt, the battery was changed, and the Assembly still led the way.

The individuals who were to have composed this camp, were invited by the Jacobin Club to come to Paris under the pretence of the commemoration of the 14th of July. The number that arrived for that epoch was very inconsiderable, and what shews clearly that the fœderation of the 14th was not the object they had in view, is, that the *Fœdérés*, as they called themselves, arrived in great numbers

numbers after the day was past, and refused to go away.

Those who have not seen these Federates will, doubtless, be curious to know what sort of persons the different departments of France had sent in order to represent them in this irregular manner. Unlike those respectable citizens who came at their own expence to the Federation of 1790, and who, actuated by a strong and real love of freedom, shewed their attachment to their King and Country by submission to the laws, and a proper conduct towards their fellow citizens, the Federates of 1792 were distinguished by that livid, hardened, and impudent front which generally characterises men who live by subverting the law, and invading property. They were in general from about sixteen to thirty years of age, cloathed in rags, and covered with dirt ; men whose employment, ever since the reign of anarchy, had been to create confusion and augment disorder in their own respective provinces. To all these were added, by way of pre-eminence, a band of those ruffians who had so long desolated Avignon, Arles, and the Southern Provinces. Collected on purpose, these

these banditti, who called themselves *Marseillois*, began their exploits at Paris, on the day of their arrival, by an open murder, and several assassinations; and carried their insolence to such a pitch, as to oblige the *Parisians* to wear a cockade in the form they chose to prescribe. The pusillanimous *Parisians* submitted, and that city, which has the insolence and vanity to compare itself to ancient Rome, and which is actually peopled with 700,000 inhabitants, received the law from 500 ragamuffins, without arms, and almost without shoes.

It may be asked, what were the Assembly about all this time, while the lives, property, and liberty, of the inhabitants of the capital were thus menaced?—Did they take any measures to prevent such disorders? No; on the contrary, it was decreed that four regiments of French troops, and all the Swiss Guards, should evacuate Paris immediately, and thus leave the King, the citizens, and the Assembly, under the power of those wretches, whom the Assembly itself and the Jacobin Club had collected together. They did still more; and to complete the means of triumph for the multitude, decreed that every person

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should be armed with a pike.—Will it hereafter be believed, that it was on the authority of a decree from the Legislature, that the rioters on the 20th of June were armed with pikes?

The decree that ordered the sending away the troops of the line from Paris was literally and readily put in execution, so far as respected the French troops; but as to the Swiss Guards, Monsieur D'Affry, their commander, signified, that the treaty with the Cantons forbade their being separated from the person of his Majesty, unless by their own consent. Thus another obstacle still remained to the project of leaving the King absolutely defenceless, and at the mercy of the multitude.

The regular French troops had no sooner departed, than the Federates attempted to enter the King's apartments during the night, by the long gallery of the Louvre. But before they had time to execute their design the Swiss Guards then on duty were called, and prevented them from penetrating beyond the gallery. This happened on the 24th of July, and served to inflame the minds of the

democratic party against the faithful guards, whose destruction was from that moment determined, as a step absolutely necessary to the attainment of success.

The Assembly, however, made still another attempt, in the beginning of the month of August, to force the King to send away the Swiss guards; and the unfortunate Monarch, who had nearly lost all hope of being able to protect himself, ordered a detachment of 300 men to quit the capital, which they did on the 7th of August. The greatest part of those who remained were at their barracks at Courbevoie, about six miles out of town, and beyond the Pont Neuilly; there remained in the palace not more than five or six hundred men, or, according to the best information, only 450.

Whilst all this was going on with the evident intention of leaving the King defenceless, petitions were solicited and obtained in all manner of ways, and from all quarters, demanding in the most insolent, unconstitutional, and rebellious manner, the destitution of the King; and the applause with which the Assembly received those petitions was

proportioned, generally, to the violent and rebellious principles and expressions of the petitioners.

Such a combination of circumstances and facts, all tending clearly towards the entire crushing of royalty, and putting every thing under the power of the people, leaves no doubt respecting the real intention of the Assembly, of which the leading Members were Jacobins, who received and treated the Federates as friends and brothers.

At the same time that things were thus proceeding in a rapid career towards the dethronement of the King, the enemies, which the nation by her ridiculous and insolent conduct had stirred up, approached the frontiers, and the Manifesto of the Duke of Brunswick, in the names of the Emperor and King of Prussia, had appeared; in consequence of which the Assembly had declared the nation in danger, and had decreed that their sittings should be permanent. The different communities and public bodies of the kingdom were likewise declared to be in a state of permanence; and this last is a circumstance of more importance than at first
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fight it appears ; for one of the principal consequences resulting from this permanence is, that their decrees and resolutions have at all times full force, and are good, whatever may be the number of Members present ; so that during the night, when there are few, it becomes a very easy matter for a party to carry any resolutions which it may think proper. It was thus that the Sections of Paris were made to appear to petition for the dethroning of the King ; and it was thus that the voice of a few midnight caballers had the appearance of being the general voice of the citizens of Paris. It was by means of this contrivance, that the first grand manœuvre preceding the massacre of the 10th, took place at midnight, and put the city completely into the hands of republicans of the most extravagant principles and ruined fortunes.

It is now necessary to come to the events of that ever-memorable and ever-horrible day. On the 8th, the Assembly had acquitted Monsieur de la Fayette of an accusation brought against him, and this acquittal was considered by the Jacobins as an omen that the dethroning of the King would not be voted on the 10th, the day on which that impor-

important question was to be discussed; and indeed it is more than probable that this conclusion would have been justified; for the Assembly, notwithstanding the majority approved that measure, would not, probably, have had the courage to strike so bold a stroke: to accomplish which, the assistance of their masters, the mob, that august rabble without breeches,* was actually necessary. Those Deputies who had taken an active part in favour of Monsieur de la Fayette, were attacked by a furious mob on their way home from the Assembly, were insulted, beaten, and had rubbish thrown in their faces; and this usage was meant to intimidate the moderate Members, and shew them how little their inviolability would protect them against the people, should they not obey *their* sovereign voice in the great discussion that was to take place on the 10th. The complaints of those Members who were thus ill-used, were treated with an indifferent contempt and neglect by the Jacobin party in the Assembly, which is another proof that they and the mob were acting altogether in concert.

* The ringleaders of them were called actually the *sans culottes*, or men without breeches.

On the 9th of August, in the afternoon, Monsieur Roederer, Procureur Syndic of the Department of Paris, appeared at the bar of the Assembly, and expressed strong apprehensions that the peace of the capital would be disturbed during the following night and day : he said, that several Sections had resolved to ring the alarm-bell, and beat the drum at midnight, on purpose to assemble the people, and attack the King's palace, in order, as they expressed it, to save the nation, which was in danger from the perfidy of the King. The Assembly, without endeavouring to take any solid measures to prevent the danger, praised, in a cool manner, the zeal of Monsieur Roederer, and left to chance one of the most important and most pressing objects that ever had been under their consideration.

The fears of Monsieur Roederer were but too well founded. At midnight the alarm-bell was sounded, and the drum beat in those quarters from whence the rabble were expected, (that is to say) in the suburbs of St. Antoine, St. Marcel, and that part of the city where the Marseillois and the Federates were quartered.

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The Department, finding that M. Pétion and the Common Council would not take any steps to prevent the danger, ordered out the national guards to protect the palace, and before day-break all the courts and avenues were filled by those guards, and by the rabble armed with pikes. The interior of the palace was occupied by the Swiss guards, and by a part of the national guards.

During this busy period, the Sections of Paris, which are 48 in number, in their quality of permanence, had chosen Jacobin representatives to replace the Common Councilmen, whom they considered as too moderate to second their designs. These new, and irregularly elected representatives went in a body to the Common Hall, and took possession of it by force, expelling those who were there, and declaring that the people were *in a state of sovereign insurrection, disposed to make use of their natural rights.** Pétion the Mayor, and Manuel, were alone continued in their functions, nor would it have been

* The complete nonsense, and pernicious jargon of this declaration, is a sufficient satire on the principles from which it is very fairly deduced.

possible to substitute in their places any others more violently attached to the Jacobin cause. By such a bold and decided, though irregular step, the Common Council was altogether of the Jacobin party, and ready to occupy the dictatorial post, which it has since filled with such enormity of cruelty and crime. Thus then at midnight was the insurrection complete on the part of the Sections; those who had rung the alarm-bells, and assembled the *sans culottes*, were also, it is pretty clear, in the same state; and it is to be remarked, that all this happened while every thing was quiet at the Thuilleries; so that it is very evident by which party the plan was laid, and the operations begun. It is in vain that the intention to attack can be attributed to the party attached to the King, which remained quiet, and without any movement, while the most hardy and most adroit manœuvres were actually carried on by their enemies.

Early in the morning the unfortunate Monarch, who saw no end to his woes, had traversed the Court of the Princes where the national troops were, in order to sound their dispositions; and for a moment the unanimity that seemed to reign, gave him hopes that

the danger was over. The cry of *vive le roi* on one hand, and of *vive la nation* on the other, served as the distinctive marks of rebellion or of loyalty. As the true intention was to come to blows, it was necessary to deceive the King's party, and conceal their feebleness. Accordingly, until about eight o'clock in the morning, numbers of the national guards, and even of the men armed with pikes, called out *vive le roi*. At a moment fixed, or at a signal given, they changed their note, and cried, *vive la nation*. The weakness of the King's party was then evident, and it was then that the King, finding himself almost without protection, determined to throw himself, with his family, into the arms of the National Assembly.

Neither the wisdom nor courage of this action merit praise. The King ought to have known that the Assembly was bent upon his destruction, and the studied and continued efforts by which he had been degraded, mortified, and reduced to a state of passive obedience, were more than sufficient to have determined him against such a step.

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The national guards had, during the night, taken a step, which might perhaps have injured the public peace. M. Petion was at the palace, and, as the best means of keeping the rabble in awe, the guards proposed detaining him as an hostage; but the Assembly was no sooner informed of this, than, by a decree, M. Petion was ordered to come thither, and thereby released from the Thuilleries; and such was the implicit submission to that decree, that he was delivered up at the instant; so that while the insurrection was declaredly begun in the 48 sections, at the Town House, and in almost every quarter of Paris, the submission to the Assembly was complete at the King's palace, and their order was instantaneously obeyed by men who had arms in their hands, and who, but a few hours after, paid very dearly for that obedience.

It seems pretty clear, that had the Swiss guards really had an intention to put the people at defiance, this would not have happened. They certainly would have opposed delivering up M. Petion, the avowed champion of the mob, at so critical a moment; and it seems pretty clear also, that the As-

sembly favoured the designs of the people, otherwise it might have preserved that cool indifference for the dangers of M. Petion, that it has so often shewn for those of its King.

Those, who by an unfortunate experience have been witnesses to the horrible tactics of the leaders of a blood-thirsty mob, know that in order to animate the people, and raise them fairly to that pitch of rage and fury which is necessary for action, they must be worked up by the sight of human blood. Accordingly, at eight o'clock in the morning a massacre was begun upon a number of persons who had been arrested during the night, and who were in custody in a guard-house near the National Assembly;* these were butchered in the most horrible manner.

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* The unfortunate persons so arrested were accused of being armed with carbines and pistols. Supposing they were, it was no great crime, at a moment when 50,000 blackguards were armed with pikes and daggers, and when the Marseillois were marching through the streets with cannon to attack their King. It is true, the seventeen people arrested were men known to be attached to the royal cause, and were certainly imprudent: for if they meant to be of real service, they should have collected themselves in a larger

The head of M. Souleau, a man famous for the vigour of his writings, and his attachment to the royal cause, fell the first; it was sawed from his body with a sabre sharpened upon the stones. Next, that of a man formerly an officer of the King's body guard, the *Beau Visier*, so well known from the extreme beauty of his form. The ferocity of the multitude was gratified by cutting off the head of the handsomest man in Paris with a gardener's spade. Mademoiselle Theroigne de Mericourt, a disgrace to her sex, and to the human race, presided at these acts of barbarity with a horrid and insulting gaiety. Five more heads were cut off at the same time, and were given immediately to the ragged multitude, to be carried upon pikes through the streets, which was to those who were not before in the secret, the signal of revolt, and signified neither more nor less

larger body, and have been all armed, not with pistols, but like other troops. However, it is believed by many, that even these seventeen were not in a body, but were royalists who were seized in the streets, some going home after supper, and others walking about merely from inquietude, which was very natural after the denunciation, which Mr. Rœderer had made at the bar of the Assembly in the afternoon. Be this as it may, the crime was not very great, and by no means merited so cruel a fate.

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than this, that the people had prevailed in gaining the national guards, and that the day was to be marked by the triumph of the Jacobin party.

It was about half an hour after these heads had been carried in procession, that the King, perceiving that the force was not on his side, went and put himself and his family under the protection of the National Assembly.

A circumstance, undoubtedly true, proves that an attack upon the Thuilleries had been previously determined: it is this; that at eight o'clock in the morning, which was two hours before the attack began, the national guard had sent a large detachment to intercept the Swiss guards, who were at their barracks at Courbevoie, but had been ordered to the palace. As soon as they met the Swiss, they saluted them with a discharge of musquetry, and the four pieces of cannon which they had with them. The knowledge of the exact points of time at which each event took place, from the evening of the 9th to the attack of the Thuilleries, is of great importance, to shew clearly which of the parties struck the first blow.

The King, who went to the Assembly, accompanied by the Queen, the Dauphin, Madame Royale, and his sister Madame Elizabeth, passed by the Terrace of the Tuilleries, attended by a number of Swiss guards, some national guards, and a few of the attendants attached to his person. On his arrival in the Assembly, he placed himself on the President's left hand, informing them, in a short speech, that as it was evident a great crime was intended to be committed, he had come to throw himself and his family under the protection of the Assembly. The Royal Family were then at the bar; but as the Assembly could not, according to forms, deliberate while the King was in the midst of them, he also passed over to the bar, and remained there for some time, with the Queen and his children.

The question of the destitution, or suspension of the King, was just about to be discussed, when the sound of the cannonade and musquetry, directed against the Tuilleries, began. Here it is necessary to compare a number of facts together, in order to determine the great question, Whether the mob or the Swiss guards gave the first fire?

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All Paris, that is to say, every body in every public place, avers, that the Swiss fired first; but then, as instant death would certainly have been the fate of any one who should venture even to hint the contrary, this must not be considered as any proof at all. The Swiss themselves, being all massacred or taken prisoners, they could not set the conduct of their regiments in its proper and true light; on the contrary, those few unfortunate guards, who still existed, were glad to pacify the barbarous murderers of their comrades by all means in their power, and therefore were ready even to own themselves guilty of giving the first fire. As the horrors of that day required all the extenuation possible, treachery and bad faith on the part of the Swiss were alledged for that purpose: this was thought the most certain way to diminish that just anger and detestation, which the cruelties committed could not fail to excite in the minds of all mankind. The contrary, however, seems, from the following reasons, to be true:

First of all, the Swiss guards had no cannon, which the Marseillois and national guards had. Now the first discharge that
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was heard was of artillery, not of musquetry, and therefore could not have been made by the Swiss guards.

In the second place, it is devoid of all probability, that about 500 soldiers, shut up in a building like the Thuilleries, and surrounded by at least 50,000 men in arms, and with artillery loaded with grape-shot, pointed against them, should be the first to push the matter to extremities, particularly as the King and Royal Family were gone.

In the third place, that vanity, which often gets the better of prudence, disclosed the truth, by inducing some of the Marseillois to boast, that it was they who began the attack.

To these there is yet another proof to be added, which is, that a few minutes before the attack was made, several carriages arrived with ammunition for the artillery of the Marseillois: now, it cannot be conceived that the Swiss guards should act so very madly, as to reserve their fire just till their adversaries were fully capable of resistance, and then begin the attack. As every thing that

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passed in the Place de Caroufel * was distinctly seen from the windows of the palace where the Swifs were, it is impossible that they could be ignorant of this circumstance.

Although it is clear, that evidence cannot be called on this question, and though those persons, who heard the Marseillois thus boast of having begun the attack, would not at present appear to give actual testimony of it, yet it is, nevertheless, a fact, that some of the Marseillois did say so, under the pavilion of the Caffé de Foi in the Palais Royale, on the evening of the following Monday, which was the 13th of the month.

The cannonade began from the Place de Caroufel, but did no very great execution, the cannon being badly pointed, and for the most part much too high. The musquetry of the Swifs, on the contrary, levelled whole groups in a moment, and upon the first fire, all the national guards ran off, but rallied again in about a minute and a half. It was not so with the Marseillois and their companions, who did not quit their post one

* See the engraving annexed.

moment; on the contrary, no sooner were any of their number killed, but others took their places with the greatest intrepidity, and without the loss of an instant.

The Swiss guards, determined to seize the cannon of their enemies, descended from the palace; but no sooner were they in the court, than they were shot at from behind by the national guards, who were in the palace. — Thus were these unfortunate and brave troops placed between two fires, and though they actually took possession of several cannons, and turned them against their enemies, whom they obliged to retreat for the moment, and pursued as far as the end of the Rue Traversier, in the Rue St. Honoré,* where they took two more cannons, yet the numbers which poured in on all sides against them were irresistible. The people, in number like the sand on the sea-shore, and animated with the fury of dæmons, attacked the palace from every quarter, and cut the Swiss in pieces wherever they appeared. The mob, armed with pikes, sabres, and fusils, broke in by the Place Louis XV. into the

* See the engraving annexed.

garden, and from thence into the palace, massacring in their way, without pity, the Swiss door-keepers, with their wives and children, though they were not any way concerned in what had happened.

The Swiss, after a defence of fifteen or twenty minutes, were either taken or murdered one by one, being hunted down by the people like wild beasts. It was thought a glorious act to give any of these ill-fated men a blow with a stick, a sabre, or a bayonet, and still more so to shoot him through the head.

On this day, as upon the ever-memorable massacre of St. Bartholomew, the wanton acts of cruelty upon unarmed and defenceless individuals, excite more horror, and are more disgraceful to human nature, than the general transaction itself. Eighty-five of these unfortunate men, who had surrendered with hopes of mercy, and under the promise of a legal trial, were conducted to the Town-House, and being then in the hands of the civil magistrate, naturally imagined themselves safe from the fury of the multitude; but they were mistaken. The good people, whom a
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certain party admire so much for its justice and calm majesty, was in a *glorious state of insurrection*, and as the prisoners descended one by one, a blackguard, miserably dressed, and uttering the most shocking blasphemies, shot them through the body ; and when he became fatigued with firing, he passed the fusil to another who was ready to take his place. During this horrible scene, the jests and witticisms of the surrounding multitude were only interrupted by the shouts of applause or of indignation which the scene before them alternately excited, in favour of the executioners, or against the devoted victims.

The same tragedy, though on a smaller scale, was, in the mean time, going on throughout the whole extent of that large city, and even in the country adjacent. A poor soldier, who in flying for his life, found himself on the point of being seized, leapt over the battlements of the bridge (the Pont Neuf) into the river, and his pursuers very deliberately fired at and killed him as he swam in the water. Several instances, almost similar, happened at and near the other bridge, called the Pont Royal ; and not a man, woman,

man, nor child, but gloried in having a piece of the bloody garments of a Swift, or still more inhumanly, a morsel of his flesh.

Many assassinations were likewise committed, which shewed that the party had before concerted what was to be done, and that it was not merely the blind rage of the moment that actuated the people. Monsieur de Clermont Tonnerre, formerly Deputy to the first National Assembly, and once a very popular man, but long since fallen into disgrace, like many others, on account of the moderation of his principles, was dragged out of his carriage in the Fauxbourg St. Germain and murdered. Now, as this gentleman had long since ceased to make any noise, it is clear the people could not have any displeasure against him at the moment, neither had any part of his conduct merited such violent treatment, nor had he either said or done any thing to enrage the multitude.

The cannons which played upon the Tuilleries were four-pounders, some loaded with ball, and others with grape-shot. A four-pounder, with ball, can do little execution, but with grape-shot may do a great deal.

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These, however, were so badly directed, that they did not do much, as is easily to be seen by the palace itself; and as was to be seen by the dead bodies of the Swifs, of whom the greater number seemed to have been killed with pikes, bayonets, or sabres.

When the armed multitude entered the palace, every one who belonged to it was put to death, and every corner was ransacked for victims. Swifs, pages, gentlemen of the chamber, valets, chaplains, cooks, women, &c. &c. all underwent the same fate. As for the furniture, it was all broken, and the apartments pillaged. The stairs, antichamber, council chamber, chapel, cellars, garrets, kitchen, and every corner of the building, was strewn with dead bodies, which here and there lay in great heaps of thirty or forty extended upon each other.

Some persons carried to the National Assembly a part of the plate and other booty seized in the palace, and the good people were thereby exculpated from the charge of stealing: their honour and patriotism were praised by the Members of the Assembly, who knew, nevertheless, that while as
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much as might be worth about three hundred thousand livres was saved, the value of above three millions was never heard of. It was an expiatory tithe which the people offered up to the Assembly; and the Assembly, of which it is said the Members, in the morning, disputed with each other the honour of running away,* dared not withhold its approbation from the conduct of the sovereign people who demanded it.

During all this time, the King and his family were in a gallery of the Assembly, and witnessed the outrages without number, and the accusations without end that were brought against him. Not a single individual, known or unknown, that demanded to be heard at the bar in accusation of the executive power, but was attended to and applauded. From the Friday morning until the Monday evening did the Royal Family remain there, sitting by day in the gallery, and sleeping by

* The newspaper which published the debates, and which had a box in the gallery, assigned by the Assembly for that purpose, was suppressed for having said that the Members disputed with each other the honour of running away. As this was a patriotic paper, we may give it credit for the fact which it announced.

night in a small committee chamber adjoining to the Assembly. On the Monday, however, after various debates, and even after a decree, by which the King and his family were to have been lodged in the hotel formerly belonging to the Chancellor, in the Place de Vendome, it was determined that he should be transported to a tower in the Temple, there to be kept a close prisoner. This was accordingly executed on the Monday afternoon, in the presence of an immense multitude, of which the individuals strove who should load the dethroned Monarch, and his unhappy Queen, with the most virulent abuse. Every thing which the vilest and lowest of the people could imagine, of the most abominable and coarsest obloquies, was vomited forth in torrents against the royal prisoners, who, in the very excess of rage which tormented their enemies, might enjoy a kind of triumph.

During the first two or three days, the Assembly, without discussing any one question, passed above fifty acts of the highest importance, which shews that it was under the influence either of fear or of force, as it is clear that it performed only a passive part.

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The Ministers belonging to the Jacobin club, who had been dismissed by the King, in the beginning of the month of June, were replaced with great powers, and constituted a council of regency with all the authority, which the King himself possessed, except that of giving sanction to the decrees of the Assembly, which was no longer necessary.

The decree, ordering what they called a National Convention, for the purpose of forming a new constitution, was also passed; and if the King of Prussia were not so near at hand, that decree would have been a very material one:—as it is, it may be of consequence, or not, according to the circumstances which may happen to prevail when it should be carried into its execution.

To enter into a minute detail of all that has happened, would serve to little or no good purpose. The acts of cruelty and perfidy then perpetrated, are too numerous and too disgraceful to humanity to be collected for the purpose of laying them before mankind. Besides, detached facts are not always well authenticated, and as it is to prevent error that this is written, it would be
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inexcusable to venture upon details that are liable to the smallest uncertainty.

The number of persons killed is supposed considerably to exceed two thousand, though the citizens and the mob concealed their loss by carrying off immediately their dead and wounded; and, by a deputation to the Assembly, declared that forty citizens had lost their lives in the fatal affair of that day.

The municipal officers or common councilmen act their part to admiration. They have named a court for trying all the prisoners taken on that day; and since that time number of persons have been dragged every night from their beds, and thrown into dungeons. The executions are begun, and the judgements are short and summary.

All this, however, cannot go on: for the men who are at the head of affairs have neither the abilities, conduct, nor experience necessary to conduct them. Besides, in order to keep the national guard and the people in awe, Santerre, the brewer, was named commander. He is a man without education, haughty, and proud. His companions in ini-

quity are obliged to employ him, because of his popularity, but do not dare to trust his abilities; an assistant is therefore employed as a counsellor. Here is almost a certain cause for a breach, before many weeks elapse; for Santerre is not like the cunning camelion, La Fayette, who veered about as the wind shifted, nor can he bear contradiction, and therefore a misunderstanding must soon be the consequence.

Another thing is, that the people who are, and certainly will continue to be the masters, will become more poor and miserable every day, and will break their present idols as they have broken those they had set up before. Petion, Manuel, Santerre, Roland, Claviere, Chubot, Merlin, Bazire, and their comrades, may expect to share the fate of Neckar, La Fayette, Barnave, Lameth, and those others who have strutted their hour upon the stage, and who may repeat these two lines of Pope,

“ These creatures had their taste of life before,

“ We too must perish when our taste is o’er.”

But

But still there is this difference between the former and the present idols of the people. The rapidity of the present decline is, from several causes, amazingly augmented; and their hour of glory will be proportionably shortened.

All this is without supposing that the combined armies of the Emperor and the King of Prussia will advance upon Paris, which is more than probable, and which if they do, the fate of those who have dyed their hands so deep in the blood of their fellow-creatures, will be yet more speedily decided.

Other nations, and particularly the English, who enjoy real liberty, and a constitution under which they have arrived at an unexampled pitch of happiness, cannot easily conceive by what means the French nation, which formerly was so completely devoted to its kings, has of late years shewn the strongest hatred against kingly power; and then again, how that same nation, after having fabricated a constitution which it extolled as a perfect work, and gave to it a name above every name, which every individual swore,

swore, not once, but fifty times, to preserve inviolable at the risk of his life, should, with equal avidity, take a new oath, and see the constitution overturned, without making a single effort to preserve it. This really requires a key to explain it. The bulk of the nation are, to speak in common language, like the vicar of Bray, and it is a faction that governs. The designs of the faction are turned towards universal anarchy, the National Assembly is their tool, and whatever be their aim and their will, as long as the power is in their hands, the bulk of the nation will submit, in the same manner as it has formerly done to its kings, and as it now does to the Marseillois. The nation is fundamentally corrupted with luxury and vice, and is at the mercy of every conqueror; and all those who imagine that the high-sounding words of *death* or *liberty*, in the mouths of the French, mark a firm determination, are as much mistaken, as they are who believed in their attachment to the constitution, which is now as completely overturned by the affair of the 10th, as the ancient monarchy was by the revolt in the month of July 1789.

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The French nation has no true idea of liberty, and is seeking a thing it does not know; and this explains the facility with which the leaders persuade the bulk of the people that they are in search of that blessing, when, in reality, they are pursuing a sort of equality and anarchy, which can exist but a very short time in any society, and which must reduce the nation, where they reign, to misery and insignificance.

The anonymous writers of this, who were present at Paris on the 10th, can assure the world, that amongst the present municipality, and those who rule in that distracted city, there is not one citizen either of property, or of unimpeached character. As to the papers pretended to be found in the palace, and with the Intendant of the Civil List, it is more than probable that they are fabricated, or that the sense of them is misinterpreted. Be that as it may, the illegal and unjust manner in which the persons suspected by the ruling party are tried and condemned, must strike all mankind as the most horrible method of committing *murder*; nor will all the false accounts, propagated and supported by all
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the money of that party, ever wash away the idea of premeditated *assassination*, which trials before the parties concerned, hurried on with unprecedented precipitation, and judgement executed in the same instant, must always present to other nations.



F I N I S.

